

Submitter: Longbeach School Board of Trustees

Good Evening

On behalf of the Longbeach School Board of Trustees I offer the following feedback to the proposed policy.

Longbeach School has long campaigned for a reduction in the speed limits around our school. Longbeach School has a student catchment area primarily bordered by SH1 to the West, Hinds River to the South, and Ashburton River to the North and encompasses students from both rural and urban (Lake Hood) backgrounds. Many of our students travel to and from school via bus which departs from Longbeach Road whilst the primary caregiver pickup/drop off area is Boundary Road.

Given the rural setting of our school it is not uncommon to note a truck and trailer, tractor or a range of other vehicles heading through this setting during peak hours when then can be estimated at 100 persons moving around the circulation areas.

The proposed 60km/h speed limit does nothing to support the safety of our community and we urge you to reconsider a 30km/h speed limit in line with other schools. Longbeach School like Ashburton District Council do not wish to experience serious injury or death to any member of our community should something as simple as a speed limit be the culprit.

Additionally we encourage you to seek innovative methods to support enforcement of the new speed limits. The blind corner on Longbeach Road is a huge risk point as is the potential crunch point of the Boundary Road corner which can be hard to navigate at peak times.

Importantly now is the time for action. Lets not make the mistake of setting the bar of speed limit to high and have blood on any of our hands. As such we recommend reconsideration of the 60km/h proposed be reduced to 30km/h and additional enforcement methods considered such as approach rumble strips, additional signage or similar.

Thank you for your consideration

Kind Regards

Richard Wood
Presiding Member - Longbeach School BOT